

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2175

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNMR SHAPE

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13285

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, CSCE, PARM, PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE/CBM'S: FRG THINKING ABOUT MANEUVER

OBSERVERS

REFS: (A) STATE 188451; (B) BONN 12959

1. FONOFF AND FMOD WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS HAVE PREPARED A PAPER ANALYZING THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REFTEL A CONVEYED TO THE FRG ON AUGUST 11 (REFTEL B). ONE OF THE POINTS MADE IN THE FRG PAPER IS THAT THREE OBSERVERS SHOULD BE INVITED FROM EACH STATE AND THAT AT LEAST THREE WP, THREE NEUTRAL AND THREE ALLIED STATES SHOULD BE INVITED TO SEND REPS TO REFORGER. THE OFFICIALS ALSO EXPRESS THEIR BELIEF THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND GDR SHOULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND AT LEAST THE NEXT QUALIFYING MANEUVER, I.E., THE ONE AFTER REFORGER.

2. IN CONNECTION WITH REFORGER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT
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THE GERMANS DO NOT SEEM TO BE BOTHERED ABOUT SOVIET-

AMERICAN "SUPERPOWER BILATERALISM" THROUGH SOVIET ATTENDANCE AT REFORGER. HOWEVER, IT WAS POINTED OUT TO US THAT THE FRG WOULD HAVE LEGAL PROBLEMS SHOULD THE SOVIETS DESIGNATE MEMBERS OF THEIR MILITARY MISSION IN FRANKFURT TO ATTEND. THE FRG WOULD NOT WANT TO ACCEPT SUCH DESIGNEES. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THE SOVIETS RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEM THAT WOULD BE CAUSED BY NAMING SUCH REPS, BUT THE GERMANS ARE LEERY THE SOVIETS MIGHT DO IT ANYWAY JUST TO BE DIFFICULT. THIS PROBLEM WOULD NOT ARISE IF THE SOVIETS WERE TO DESIGNATE SOMEONE LIKE THEIR FUTURE MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN, BUT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHEN HE WILL ARRIVE. FMOD OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE SOVIETS MAY BE STALLING, AND THE EXCHANGE MAY NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

3. IT WAS STRESSED TO US THAT THE ABOVE PAPER AND COMMENTS WERE STRICTLY A FIRST CUT AT THE PROBLEM, AND THAT MANY MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS--BOTH IN THE FONOFF AND FMOD--MUST TAKE A LOOK AT IT.

4. AN ARTICLE APPEARING AUGUST 15 IN THE "FRANKFURTER ALLEGEMEINE" HEADLINED THE FACT THAT THE FRG WOULD BE THE FIRST CSCE FINAL ACT SIGNATORY TO PROVIDE NOTIFICATION OF A MILITARY MANEUVER TO OTHER SIGNATORY STATES. THE ARTICLE INDICATED THAT FRG AMBASSADORS IN THE VARIOUS CSCE CAPITALS WERE EXPECTED TO DELIVER DIPLOMATIC NOTES ON THE SUBJECT PRIOR TO AUGUST 25. THE GDR WILL BE NOTIFIED IN THE USUAL, I.E., NON-DIPLOMATIC, MANNER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROTOCOL ESTABLISHING THE RESPECTIVE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONS IN BONN AND EAST BERLIN. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT BECAUSE OF LACK OF TIME, PREPARATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION AND GUIDANCE OF OBSERVERS FROM EAST EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY ENOUGH CONSIDERED. HOWEVER, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE PRESENCE OF OBSERVERS WOULD BE EXPECTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NEXT MILITARY MANEUVER, I.E., REFORGER.

5. COMMENT: THIS ARTICLE SOUNDS VERY MUCH LIKE THE COMMENTS WE HAVE HEARD FROM FRG OFFICIALS THIS WEEK
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REGARDING THE LACK OF TIME FOR HIGH-LEVEL DECISIONS ON INVITING VISITORS TO GROSSE ROCHADE. HOWEVER, IT HAS ALSO BEEN MADE CLEAR TO US THAT THE FRG EXPECTS A MINIMUM OF DIFFICULTY IN WORKING OUT AGREED PROCEDURES FOR INVITING OBSERVERS TO REFORGER.
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